FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 179 *13 September 1979*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Speaks at Ceremony Eulogizing Zuhayr Muhsin A 1
VOP: 'Arafat Chairs Military Council Meeting 12 Sep A 2
'Arafat Reportedly Empowers Jordan To Work For Palestinians A 2
VOP Reports New As-Sa'iqah Command Members A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Information Minister Interviewed on Security Situation C 1
Gulf Countries Seek Unified Security Policy C 2
Bahrain Offer To Host Meeting C 2
Kuwait Daily Comments on Spread of Sectarian Strife C 3
[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 10 Sep]

SAUDI ARABIA

Communique Issued on Kenyan President's Visit C 4
SNA on Talks With Presidents of Kenya, Somalia C 5

EGYPT

As-Sadat To Begin 2-Week Visit to Ismailia 14 September D 1
Joint Projects Discussed With U.S. Businessmen D 1
ANSA: Leftists Oppose As-Sadat's Support For Morocco D 1

JORDAN

Palestinian Detainees Reportedly To Be Released F 1
Prime Minister Receives PLO Official Yahya [AR-RA'Y 13 Sep] F 1
Jericho Mayor Arrives 12 Sep, Makes Statement F 1
AR-RA'Y Questions U.S. Envoy Strauss' Optimism F 2
Amman Radio Confirms Stand On Palestinian Issue F 3

LEBANON

Continued Clashes Reported in Beirut 12 September G 1
VOL Reports Syrian Attempt to Foil Cease-Fire G 1
Beirut Radio Reports Calm in Troubled Areas 13 September G 1
VOL Reports Al-Murabitun, Socialist Union Clashes G 1
Four Killed in Socialist Union Office in Beirut [VOL] G 1
Beirut Radio Reports Israeli Fighters Overfly Sidon G 2
Fatah's Abu Iyad Meets Progressive Socialist Leaders [VOL] G 2
Fatah's Abu Jihad Meets Shi'ite Council Member, Others [VOL] G 2
Iraqi Ba'th Party Official Meets With Junblatt G 2
New Transmitter 'Voice of Hope' Broadcasting in South G 3

SYRIA

President al-Asad Accepts Economy Minister's Resignation H 1
Interior Minister Urges Police Alertness H 1
Foreign Minister Meets With Visiting Japanese Mission H 1
ATH-THAWRAH Comments on Reports of U.S. Forces on Masirah H 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Receives Tunisian Foreign Minister I 1
ASH-SHA'B: As-Sadat, Hassan II Collaborate With Enemies I 1
[5 Sep]

LIBYA

Kuwaiti Finance Minister Atiqi Arrives 8 Sep I 2

MOROCCO

King Hassan Accepts Bourguiba Mediation Proposal I 2
PLO Representative Hani al-Hasan Issues Statement I 3
Economic, Technical Accord With Saudi Arabia Ratified I 4

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Invites Hassan, Bendjedid to Talks I 4
New Defense Minister, Political Bureau Members Appointed I 4

ISRAEL

Further Reportage on Ambassador Strauss' Current Visit N 1
Strauss, Burg Interviews N 1
Strauss Remarks to Editors N 2
"Summarizing Talk" With Begin N 2
Meeting With Dayan N 2
Dayan Comments on Meeting N 3
HA'ARETZ Report on Visit [13 Sep] N 3
Autonomy Working Teams To Submit Joint Document N 4
Farmers Allowed To Cross Sinai Boundary To Harvest Crops N 4
Energy Minister Reportedly Holding Oil Talks in Oslo N 5
West Bank Land Closed for IDF Training Area [Jerusalem POST 13 Sep] N 5
IDF Prevents Shavei Shomron Settlers From Seizing Land N 6
Living Standards Rise in West Bank, Gaza, Northern Sinai N 6
[Jerusalem POST 5 Sep]
Cost of Living Index Rises 8 Percent in August N 6
[Jerusalem POST 13 Sep]

IRAN

Bazargan: Government Will Not Interfere in Afghanistan R 1
Bazargan 11 Sep Speech R 1
Khomeyni Sends Envoy To Investigate Oil Industry R 1
Khomeyni Receives Guard Commander R 2
Friday Prayers for 14 Sep To Be at Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery R 2
'Arafat Condolences to Khomeyni on Taleqani Death [VOP] R 2
Iraqi President Expresses Condolences R 3
Bakhtiar on Taleqani Death R 3

Foreign Minister Cables Greetings to Syria's Al-Asad R 3
Gendarmerie Statement on Turning in Arms, Pardons R 3
Kurdish Leader Grants Interview [ANSA] R 4
Cleanup Operation in Salmas R 4
Party Protests Innocence of Socialists Charged With Sabotage [ETTEIA'AT 6 Sep] R 4
Muslim Party on Censorship, Action Against 'Saboteurs' [KEYHAN 9 Sep] R 5
Finance Ministry To Hold Responsibility for Prisons R 6
Government Urged To Act on Unemployment [KEYHAN 6 Sep] R 6
Shiraz Mourns Death of Anti-Shah Protestors R 6
East Azarbayjanis Ordered To Turn in Weapons R 6
NVOI Censures Government's Suppression of Kurds R 7

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

AFP: Soldiers, Insurgents Clash in Northeast 9 Sep S 1
Commentary on Victory of Great Sawr Revolution S 1
More Marches and Meetings Support Regime 11 Sep S 2
'KHALQ' Published as PDPA Central Organ S 2
Karachi Reports Soviet Agreement on Satellite Station S 2

BANGLADESH

Foreign Minister Hails Role at Nonalined Summit S 3

INDIA

Devraj Urs Elected President of Congress Party S 4
Mrs Gandhi Addresses Party Convention in Delhi 13 Sep S 4
Congress-I Holds Meeting To Ascertain Members' Views S 5
West Bengal Left Front To Contest Midterm Polls S 5
CPI To Contest 20 Uttar Pradesh Parliamentary Seats S 5
New Regional Party Ministry Takes Office in Assam S 5
Gegong Apaang To Head New Ministry in Arunachal Pradesh S 6
Strike Halts Indian Oil Corporation Marketing Operations S 6
Measures Taken To Meet Drought Situation S 6

SRI LANKA

AFP: Left Wing Trade Unions Protest Draft Laws S 7

'ARAFAT SPEAKS AT CEREMONY EULOGIZING ZUHAYR MUHSIN

JN130725 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 13 Sep 79 JN

[Excerpts] A eulogy ceremony was held in the Damascus University auditorium at 1800 yesterday, on the occasion of the 40th day following the martyrdom of Comrade Zuhayr Muhsin, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the PLO Military Department.

Mahmud al-Ma'aytah delivered a speech on behalf of the national grouping in Jordan. He stressed that the Zionist presence in the occupied territories is a threat not only to Palestine but to the entire Arab nation. He explained that martyr Zuhayr Muhsin was a victim of the Camp David parties and their hostile schemes. Al-Ma'aytah stressed that the Arab nation is asked to give further support and assistance to the Palestinian revolution and to Syria and to strengthen their steadfastness in confronting the challenges the Arab nation is facing.

Speaking on behalf of the Lebanese National (Wataniyah) Front, Lebanese Nationalist Movement member 'Abdallah Sa'adah said that the Syrian forces' entry into Lebanon is a courageous step and an initiative that demonstrates the pan-Arab (Qawmiyah) responsibility shouldered by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. Sa'Adah added that any party that tries to remove Syria and its forces from Lebanon will be abetting the hostile policy carried out by the Camp David parties.

Sami al-'Attari, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member, delivered the Ba'th Party's speech. He said: The Ba'thist school has taught us that martyrdom for the Arab cause is one of the most sublime sacrifices in our long struggle on the road to achieving our nation's aspirations. We tell the conspirators that they are harboring illusions, because our cause is far stronger and more permanent and because our people are determined to continue their just struggle until their objectives are achieved.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat then delivered a speech in which he pledged to Zuhayr Muhsin that the Palestinian revolution will continue until victory, despite the obstacles, the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies, and despite the agents represented by As-Sadat. 'Arafat said that the conspiracies brought against the Arab nation are large and are directed against the entire Arab nation, rather than against the Palestinian revolution alone.

'Arafat stressed that the Camp David parties will not achieve their objectives by ignoring the Palestinians and at their expense. 'Arafat praised Syria's steadfastness, saying: The steadfastness of Syria and the Palestinian revolution in the face of the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat conspiracies is a sure guarantee of our victory.

'Arafat pointed to the recurrent Zionist aggressions against southern Lebanon and stressed the inevitability of the revolution's continuation, despite these barbaric aggressions. He said: In the name of our martyrs and in the name of martyr Zuhayr Muhsin, we tell the Camp David parties that the revolution will not kneel and that we will fight to the last martyr.

VOP: 'ARAFAT CHAIRS MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING 12 SEP

JN121827 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, presided over a meeting of the expanded Palestinian Military Council at noon today.

Abu 'Ammar outlined recent developments in the local, Arab and international spheres and briefed the participants on the nonalined movement's resolutions during its recent summit meeting in Havana.

'ARAFAT REPORTEDLY EMPOWERS JORDAN TO WORK FOR PALESTINIANS

JN131006 DOHA QNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 13 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 13 September--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' quoted diplomatic sources here today as saying the PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has empowered Jordan to work to regain the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This historic agreement was reached during 'Arafat's latest meeting with Jordan's King Husayn.

The paper said that the agreement stipulates that Jordan and the PLO will decide later on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. However, the paper adds: This agreement has created a dilemma because it contradicts the Rabat summit resolutions, which acknowledged the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, thus requiring that this agreement be ratified by another summit conference. For this reason, Jordan's King Husayn will submit this draft agreement to the Saudi monarch when he meets him in Geneva, to get Saudi Arabia's opinion before submitting it for discussion prior to the convocation of an Arab summit conference.

The paper says that the next summit conference will be held in Jidda in November, while the Arab kings and presidents are there on pilgrimage.

In another development, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, in a dispatch from Beirut, reports that Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member, will visit Jordan in the next few days to hold military talks with officials there.

VOP REPORTS NEW AS-SA'IQAH COMMAND MEMBERS

JN121050 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] It was learned yesterday that the General Command of the Organization of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards--As-Sa'iqah forces--has been formed as follows:

'Isam al-Qadi, General Command secretary; Hasan 'Ajjaj, deputy General Command secretary and head of the Political Department; Farhat Abu al-Hayja', member and head of the Information Department; Tariq Ibrahim, Muhammad 'Abd al-'Al, and 'Abd al-Wahhab (Lawayti) as members.

BAHRAIN

INFORMATION MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON SECURITY SITUATION

JN121425 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0840 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 12 September--Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyid has stated that there is a quarter which benefits from statements made in Iran against Bahrain. The Bahraini minister explained that the quarter in question is not the Islamic Iranian revolution in view of the assistance and support the Iranian revolution received from Arab countries in General and Gulf countries in particular.

The Bahraini minister welcomed the convening of a summit conference of Gulf foreign ministers to define a new approach to the political situation the area is experiencing. The Bahraini minister said: We cannot divorce what is taking place in the Gulf area from what is taking place in the region in general.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today, the Bahraini information minister pointed to the demonstration in Bahrain a few months ago in support of the Iranian revolution. He said: The authorities at that time did not take any measures to to stop or ban it. However, we have to distinguish between spontaneous demonstrations and attempts to create trouble and disturb security in the country. The Bahraini minister stressed that the Bahraini Government will oppose any suspect moves aimed at disturbing security or harming the unity of Bahraini society. The minister added: What is taking place in Bahrain will affect the course of events in the entire area in a few days time because the target is not Bahrain but the security of the Gulf.

The Bahraini minister excluded the possibility that any party in Bahrain or in the Gulf area is behind these moves. He expressed the belief that there is a foreign quarter which benefits from these troubles and whose objective is to cause the disintegration of Bahraini society.

Asked whether he believes there is coordination in implementing the scheme for exporting sectarian wars from Lebanon to the other Arab countries, the Bahraini minister said: The process of causing the disintegration of the sects is one of the possible means which some are trying to exploit to cause the Arab nation's disintegration. If they fail they will try other means. The Bahraini information minister added: What took place and is taking place in Lebanon is an experiment which some want to transfer to the entire Arab world. He called for settling the Lebanese issue, whose solution he said, lies in the hands of the Arab countries.

Asked whether he believes there is a need for convening a Gulf conference to discuss the latest developments in the area and whether any contacts have been held to this effect, the Bahraini minister said: Contacts among Gulf countries are continuing and conferences at ministerial level in all spheres are held periodically in a satisfactory manner. The area is in need of more cohesion among its executive bodies in view of the natural cohesion that exists among its people and the clear understanding among the area's political leaderships. He added: We are for the convening of an Arab summit whose task will be the formulation of an Arab strategy to deal with the situation in the Arab area and with the dangers to which our pan-Arab fateful causes might be exposed.

The Bahraini minister spoke about his country's relations with Kuwait. He said that they are exemplary relations that can be a model for joint Gulf and Arab action.

GULF COUNTRIES SEEK UNIFIED SECURITY POLICY

JN121250 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 12 September--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' reports today that countries in the area began intensive contacts at the highest level on Saturday to convene a Gulf conference on recent developments in the countries of the area--namely, the attempts to ignite sectarian war--and to agree on a unified security scheme to confront and contain these developments.

The paper quotes high-level Bahraini sources as saying that these contacts aim at convening the conference at the prime ministers level. However, the results of the contacts held so far show that there is an inclination to hold the conference at the foreign ministers level next week.

The sources added that all the countries in the area have agreed to hold the conference, whose venue and date will be determined. The sources said that Bahrain seems to be the most likely venue for the conference.

AL-ANBA' says that Gulf countries were informed about the sectarian demonstrations that have taken place in some Gulf countries and that contacts to achieve security coordination among Gulf countries began recently.

The Bahraini sources stressed that information available to countries in the area reveals that foreign quarters, in cooperation with local elements, had began preparing to cause an explosion in the area from within in order to subjugate it and end its opposition to the Camp David agreements.

The newspaper quotes other sources as saying that last Monday was chosen as the day for holding demonstrations in several countries in the area. The sources added that two pamphlets had been distributed in Bahrain calling for the organization of demonstrations. However, the Bahraini people did not respond to this call and the demonstrations were not held.

Bahrain Offer To Host Meeting

JN130936 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0810 GMT 13 Sep 79 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 13 September--Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyid has stated his country is ready to host any Gulf meeting, at any level and at any time.

In a statement made to the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ today, the Bahraini information minister said that Bahrain would be glad to have the Muslim brothers in the Gulf meet here, whether at summit level, prime ministers level or foreign ministers level.

The Bahraini minister added that while Bahrain welcomes such a meeting and considers it a necessity, particularly at this time, it wishes to stress that no party has submitted a request to this effect to date.

KUWAIT DAILY COMMENTS ON SPREAD OF SECTARIAN STRIFE

LD121525 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 10 Sep 79 p 20 LD

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Masa'id article: "Bahrain and the Advocates of Sedition"]

[Excerpts] For a long time we have been warning that the Gulf area will not be left in peace. In fact, we have said that much of what is happening in the Arab area is aimed in the final analysis at involving the Gulf region in the big game. AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM probably sounded the alarm more than 2 years ago when it pointed out plans aimed at turning Bahrain into the Cyprus of the Arab Gulf. This was said in reference to the explosion that took place on the Mediterranean island in accordance with the Kissinger plan that has led to partition.

Kissinger, the cunning Jew, brandished this weapon in order to destroy the area after he had seen the quality of Arab fighting in the October War and realized that the fake giant in Palestine would not be able to stand fast if the United States left it alone.

Thus the demonic Zionist mind was bound to resort to a destructive game. Kissinger was the executor of the game. The first "trial" was in Cyprus, and from there the mad storm was unleashed in the direction of the Middle East, hitting Lebanon first. It then grew stronger and went on raging until it created an unprecedented atmosphere in the area. The ghosts of sectarianism emerged from their caverns and started work to divide Islam and sow disunity in its ranks so that it would be factionalized and plunged into a new darkness. The real aim of this is to divert attention from the Zionist danger and cause sedition and battles in which all will perish but Israel will remain and the oil will be left for the United States.

At every stage they create problems for this area that divert its attention from its basic problems of liberation, sovereignty and progress. Seeds of sectarianism are now being sown among the Arabs in an alarming manner with a view to causing the Arabs, together with Islam, to get lost in a maze of false and misleading slogans.

The designs now are centered on Bahrain so that the conflagration will break out there and spread outward. The aim, of course, is to eliminate its Arab character and destroy its Islam in the name of Islam and under slogans which are being exploited by the malicious ones who eventually reap all the benefits.

Many persistent questions come to mind as to what is happening and the reasons for this unrelenting instigation to "Cypriotize" the area and start sectarian strife. Everybody knows that such strife begins with a small spark but nobody knows how it will end if not with the destruction of everybody.

Certainly Islam will be the biggest loser, because the victims will be its own and the destruction will occur in its own land and in the mind and spirit of its own people.

Bahrain is Arab and Muslim and its people know their own interests best. This being the case, it should prompt all the Bahraini people, regardless of their sect, community or political ideology, to rally on a national basis in order to protect the Arabism of Bahrain and spare it and the Gulf area the dangers of sedition, which serves only the enemies of Arabism and Islam.

SAUDI ARABIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON KENYAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT

LD122110 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1645 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

["Joint Saudi-Kenyan Communique"--SNA headline]

[Text] At-Ta'if, 12 September--At the invitation of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 9 to 12 September 1979. His Excellency and the accompanying delegation were accorded a friendly welcome at the official and popular level, reflecting the close relations between the two friendly countries and the appreciation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia toward His Excellency Daniel Arap Moi for his stand on Arab-African cooperation in all fields.

His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi held talks with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, dominated by a spirit of friendship and complete understanding. They exchanged views on various matters that concern the two countries, particularly bilateral relations and Arab-African relations.

The talks were attended by His Excellency Attorney General C. Njonjo; Foreign Minister Dr Munyua Waiyaki; Minister for Economic Planning and Community Affairs Dr Robert John Cuko; assistant to the Ministry of Land Kariuki; (Njanjai), assistant in the ministry of State for the Presidency and minister of finance [as received]; assistant to the minister of defense, Kiereini; assistant to the foreign minister L. Kibinge; and deputy under secretary in the ministry and Chief of Protocol. L. (Odero). Also on the Kenyan side were Kenyan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia N. Okulo; Kenyan Ambassador to Somalia Omer Ahmed Fakih; official in the presidential palace K. (Buyut); official at the presidential office Muriithi; Director General of PTT (Njini); and I. (Njini), private secretary to the president and adviser at the presidential palace.

On the Saudi side the talks were attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; His Excellency Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl; Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi; Minister of State His Excellency Shaykh Ibrahim Mas'ud; Foreign Ministry Under Secretary His Excellency Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan; Saudi Ambassador to Somalia His Excellency Shaykh Taha ad-Dughaythir; head of the Eastern Section at the Foreign Ministry His Excellency Ambassador 'Abbas Ghazzawi; and Saudi Charge d'Affaires in Kenya His Excellency Tahir Jamil 'Abid.

The two sides have affirmed their intention to develop and promote cooperation between them. In implementing this they have agreed to the exchange of visits by officials of the two countries at various levels. They expressed their satisfaction over the development of relations between the Arab and African states and over the success of the Arab-African cooperation conferences in strengthening complete understanding between the Arab and African states which endeavor to assert their political independence and economic and cultural liberation. The two sides have agreed to set up a joint Saudi-Kenyan economic committee on a permanent basis to tackle economic and trade affairs and other related matters. The two sides affirmed their support for the just liberation issues of the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and the need to aid their legitimate struggle against foreign occupation and racism.

The two sides expressed the hope that the London conference on the Rhodesian problem attains successful results which respond to the aspirations and hopes of the people of Zimbabwe.

In the field of reviewing foreign interference in the African Continent, the two sides affirmed their belief in the need to keep Africa outside the arena of struggle in its various forms so that Africa can develop and promote its potentials for the welfare and good of its peoples.

The two sides studied the Middle East issue. They condemned Israeli armed aggression as a means to annex Arab territory by force. They affirmed their insistence on the necessity of Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territory occupied since 1967, foremost holy Jerusalem, and the need to support the Palestinian people to recover their legitimate rights, including the right of self-determination and return to their homeland.

They also expressed their strong denunciation of the continuing barbarous Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon and affirmed that it has become imperative for the world community and the UN Organization, and particularly the Security Council, to confront those conditions with decisive measures to put an end to these attacks in view of the perils and the violation of international legal principles and violation of the high human ideals they entail.

His excellency the Kenyan president expressed hi appreciation for the constructive efforts the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is making for the cause of peace and economic stability. He also lauded the achievements realized by the kingdom in all fields for the welfare and prosperity of the Saudi Arabian people under the aegis of his majesty's wise leadership. His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, also expressed his appreciation for the wise and moderate policy of His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi in achieving stability, progress and prosperity for the Kenyan people and for the effective role Kenya is shouldering in the international field by supporting the causes of right and justice.

His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi conveyed his thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, for the warm and friendly welcome accorded to him and to the accompanying delegation at the official and popular level during their stay in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and for the hospitality received during the visit. His Excellency extended an invitation to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to visit the Republic of Kenya. His highness accepted the invitation gratefully, and a date for it will be set later.

SNA ON TALKS WITH PRESIDENTS OF KENYA, SOMALIA

LD122139 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1932 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Jidda--His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal has stated that His Royal Highness Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had contacts with the presidents of Kenya and Somalia with the aim of creating a constructive atmosphere for the development of relations between the two countries. In a statement to SNA at the end of the visit of Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre and Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi to the kingdom, his royal highness said that the two presidents stressed both their desire and intention to normalize relations between them in a manner than preserves their interests and realizes security and stability in the region.

AS-SADAT TO BEGIN 2-WEEK VISIT TO ISMAILIA 14 SEPTEMBER

NC130551 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2258 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 12 September--President Anwar as-Sadat will begin a 2-week visit to Ismailia on Friday. Reporting this in Thursday's issue, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says that during this visit President as-Sadat will resume his democratic dialog with the various sectors of the people. He will meet with the councils and teaching staffs of the Universities of Tanta, Al-Mansurah, Az-Zaqaziq, Alexandria and Al-Qanal.

The paper says that President as-Sadat will also hold meetings with executive and political leaders in the canal area.

JOINT PROJECTS DISCUSSED WITH U.S. BUSINESSMEN

NC121324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 12 September--Jamal an-Nazir, minister of state for economic cooperation, today examined with the delegation of U.S. businessmen, who accompanied President Carter's special envoy Robert Strauss to the Middle East, the results of the discussions held between the delegation and Egyptian businessmen on cooperation in the establishment of joint projects.

An-Nazir said that the discussions resulted in the definition of five industrial projects in which businessmen of both countries will cooperate. The projects are: production of glass sheets, irrigation pumps, ready-to-wear clothes, leather goods and prefabricated houses.

Jamal an-Nazir said that the U.S. delegation has shown great interest in the glass sheets project in which about 120 million pounds have been invested. He said that several meetings will be held in the next 2 months between businessmen of the two countries to discuss the final details for the implementation of these projects.

The U.S. businessmen delegation, which includes 14 company directors, is scheduled to leave Cairo Thursday following a 4-day visit to Egypt.

ANSA: LEFTISTS OPPOSE AS-SADAT'S SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO

AU110910 Rome ANSA in English 0820 GMT 11 Sep 79 AU

[Text] Cairo, September 11 (ANSA) The leftist Egyptian press and wide sectors of public opinion are perplexed over Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's announcement a few days ago on military support for Morocco in its war against the POLISARIO-Sahara Liberation Front. POLISARIO, backed by Algeria and Morocco, are fighting over the former Spanish colony known as the Western Sahara.

The "Socialist Laborites," led by Ibrahim Shukri, and the "Unionist Progressives," under Khalid Muhyi ad-Din had already voiced opposition against this plan, which has won approval of As-Sadat's "National Democratic Party" that holds ninety-two percent of the seats in the Egyptian parliament.

In a communique released to the foreign press here Monday, the "Laborites" and "Progressives" claimed that military assistance to Morocco would have negative repercussions on the domestic economic situation at a moment when Sadat has had to personally act on the problem of rising prices ordering a freeze on the prices of staple products.

PALESTINIAN DETAINEES REPORTEDLY TO BE RELEASED

JN121020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 12 September -The Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS reports that the Jordanian Government has decided to release a number of Palestinian detainees convicted on various charges. The paper cites reliable sources in Amman as saying that the release of the new batch of detainees was requested by Yasir 'Arafat during his 28 August meeting with King Husayn in Amman. The sources said that the king has promised to release the detainees gradually. The paper notes that the Jordanian Government released nine detainees a week ago.

AL-QABAS also reports that Col Na'im al-Khatib will be appointed commander of the Palestine Liberation Army [in Jordan] to succeed the present commander, Brig Gen Nihad Nusaybah, who will be appointed political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. Colonel al-Khatib is currently deputy commander in chief of the Palestine Liberation Army.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES PLO OFFICIAL YAHYA

JN130748 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Sep 79 p 2 JN

[Text] Amman--Prime Minister Mudar Badran received 'Abd al-Razzaq Yahya, director of the PLO Political Department, in his office yesterday. The meeting went on for some time.

JERICHO MAYOR ARRIVES 12 SEP, MAKES STATEMENT

JN121810 Doha QNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 12 September--Jericho Mayor 'Abd al-'Aziz as-Suwayti arrived in Amman today on a visit of several days to hold talks with Jordanian officials on the West Bank situation and the services rendered by the Jericho municipality to the citizens.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Amman, As-Suwayti expressed his optimism with regard to convening an international conference to discuss the Palestinian issue. As-Suwayti said: Such a conference would lay down the necessary basis for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue to prevent the United States from imposing a solution that secures Israeli interests, since the United States has proved, through its numerous practices, that it is biased toward Israel.

The Palestinian official said he welcomes any dialog with Europe and the United States. He added: It is through such dialog that the justness of our cause is affirmed and we can gain more friends on our side.

The Jericho mayor affirmed that moderate Palestinians have not participated in the current autonomy talks because there has not been any clarification of the kind of self-rule that would fulfill the Palestinian people's hopes, especially since the Zionist enemy's prime minister, Menahem Begin, has specified Israel's concept as being rule by the inhabitants, which does not include land, sovereignty and water. As-Suwayti also affirmed that the Palestinian people would not accept self-rule even if some of its clauses were amended, since it is based on erroneous premises which are incompatible with Palestinian rights.

Concerning the possibility of postponing the municipality elections in the occupied territories and linking them to the autonomy elections, As-Suwayti said: There is absolutely no relationship between municipality elections and self-rule. As-Suwayti affirmed that the occupation authorities will not find any candidate or voter who will agree to take part in this plot because the Palestinian people are mature and aware of the dimensions of their cause.

Concerning acceptance of the partition resolution and the return to it, As-Suwayti said that although the resolution was considered unjust at the time and the Arabs did not accept it or agree with its terms, it is the lesser of two evils, since it guarantees the return of Palestine's territory to the Arabs, especially since at present Israel refuses to withdraw from the West Bank, which represents 17 percent of Palestine.

AR-RA'Y QUESTIONS U.S. ENVOY STRAUSS' 'OPTIMISM'

JN121048 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 12 Sep 79 pp 1, 15 JN

[Editorial: "The New Settlements and Strauss' Optimism"]

[Text] While reports speak of the optimism overwhelming Mr Robert Strauss and his friends in Cairo and Tel Aviv during the U.S. envoy's current mission, the Zionist occupation authorities have decided to initiate another program of systematic seizure of more Arab lands and establishment of new settlements in the occupied West Bank. This decision was made despite the strong condemnation of the Zionist military establishment and its Camp David partners at the Havana nonalined summit a few days ago.

We totally understand why Israel has ignored the Havana summit condemnation. After all, defiance of the international community has been characteristic of Israel's diplomatic behavior since its establishment. What we do not understand is the hidden reason behind the optimism expressed by Mr Strauss during his current tour.

How can the U.S. envoy be optimistic when Israel has received him with a decision to build more settlements in the occupied territory, especially since the U.S. official position on the question of the settlements completely conflicts with that decision? How can Mr Strauss be optimistic over the success of his mission or the alleged peace process when Israel has dealt a personal slap in the face to him and to U.S. prestige itself?

This unusual relationship between Washington and Tel Aviv recalls King Husayn's words in Paris a few days ago, and before that in Havana, that the United States will continue to be unable to play a constructive and effective role in the area as long as it sides with the aggressor.

By clearly stating this position before the international community King Husayn has once again exposed the real role which the United States and its allies are playing in the stormy incidents attending our cause.

Israel is the United States' first and possibly only commitment. It is a commitment which has made Washington go to the point of succumbing to Israel and abandoning its previously declared positions on the question of the settlements. It is only in this way that we understand Mr Strauss' optimism, the line being pursued by the Camp David partners and the fate awaiting our entire area. It behooves us to act at the appropriate time to foil this line.

AMMAN RADIO CONFIRMS STAND ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE

JN121715 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Egyptian and Israeli propaganda organs have been so indefatigable in claiming that Jordan will participate in the negotiations that the contagion has moved to As-Sadat himself and to Israeli officials who keep exchanging assurances regarding Jordan's participation in these negotiations.

It seems these people want to distort the Jordanian stand and make it appear to deal with the surface of the problem and with procedures rather than dealing with the essence of the problem and the principles of a just and comprehensive settlement.

The argument on whether Jordan will or will not join the negotiations is restricted to the Egyptian and Israeli information media equally. The purpose of this argument is to depict the Jordanian stand on the Palestinian issue as a tactical one. They want to insinuate that Jordan agrees to the principles which they raised to solve the Palestinian problem, that Jordan's rejection is based on secondary reasons, and that since these reasons are about to disappear, Jordan will participate in the negotiations.

This is what the Egyptian and Israeli information media want to achieve by spreading such allegations. They want to hint to the Palestinians inside the occupied territories not to hesitate to participate in their alleged peace because, they claim, Jordan agrees to participate in the negotiations.

By extending their claims to Jordan's stand, the Egyptian and Israeli information media want to curb the world and international impetus in search of a substitute for the self-administration agreement by implying that those concerned agree to the provisions of this agreement.

The entire propaganda process is no more than an exposed information game because Jordan's position, which has been confirmed in various Arab and international forums, is based on principles that are not subject to change and negotiations whose basis is compromise.

According to the premises of the Jordanian firm and principled stand, the basic principles on which peace should be based are those that have been approved by the international community in numerous resolutions that call for Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, first of all Jerusalem, and for guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to return to their land and to self-determination.

We do not believe that a stand based on these two principles can be subject to changes, amendments or bargaining in negotiations, whose inevitable outcome is surrendering to the legitimacy of Israeli occupation of Arab land.

CONTINUED CLASHES REPORTED IN BEIRUT 12 SEPTEMBER

NC121254 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] The security situation that suddenly deteriorated 2 days ago in the areas of An-Nab'ah and Burj Hammud has been the center of concern for top officials in view of its repercussions.

Clashes continued in the area before noon today, despite the cease-fire agreement reached earlier today--resulting in several deaths and injuries as a result of today's clashes the An-Nab'ah area was without electricity. The Sinn al-Fil-Judaydah-Sad Al-Bushariyah highway at As-Salumi Circle has been closed. The Jisr Beirut-Sinn al-Fil-as-Salumi Circle is still closed. All the internal roads in An-Nab'ah and Burj Hammud are also closed due to sniper fire.

VOL REPORTS SYRIAN ATTEMPT TO FOIL CEASE-FIRE

NC122030 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] Between 1930 and 2000 today, several 120mm and 82mm mortar shells fell in the Ash-Shahrur and As-Suyufi areas, causing only minor damage. It has emerged that the firing came from the Syrian positions on the opposite side. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Syrian forces stationed in Dahr al-Jamal, Al-Mukallis, and Tallat al-Hamra' opened machinegun fire at the areas of An-Nab'ah and Burj Hammud this evening with a view to foiling the cease-fire reached among the Phalangist, Liberal and Dashnaq parties. Only sporadic shooting has been heard in the area since 2000 today.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS CALM IN TROUBLED AREAS 13 SEPTEMBER

NC130731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 Sep 79 NC

[Text] The situation in An-Nab'ah-Burj Hammud area was noticeably calm last night and this morning following a reconciliation between the disputing sides in the area. However, tension prevailed last night in the 'Ayn al-Muraysah area in the western region of the capital where the security officials are working to restore peace and order.

VOL REPORTS AL-MURABITUN, SOCIALIST UNION CLASHES

NC130730 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 13 Sep 79 NC

[Text] We have just received the following report: Clashes have been continuing between groups of Al-Murabitun and the Socialist Union since 0500 today. Elements of Al-Murabitun have raided and completely destroyed two Socialist Union offices in Ra's An-Nab'ah and Al-Hamra. The Voice of Lebanon correspondent has learned that the Al-Murabitun are gathering their vehicles and elements in preparation for raiding the Socialist Union offices in 'Ayn al-Muraysah.

FOUR KILLED IN SOCIALIST UNION OFFICE IN BEIRUT

NC130850 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 13 Sep 79 NC

[Text] Four persons have been killed in an Arab Socialist Union office in Ra's Beirut including an armed Kurd called 'Ali al-Mullah. At the same time a gunman has been besieged in another office in At-Tariq al-Jadidah area near Imam 'Ali Mosque. Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf, second-in-command to 'Arafat in Fatah] arrived at a point near the municipal playing fields where he brought out Abu Haytham under his own protection.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI FIGHTERS OVERFLY SIDON

NC121238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] For the first time since the latest cease-fire in southern Lebanon, a formation of Israeli military planes overflew Sidon before noon today at a very low altitude. Ground fire was opened on the planes. The overflight continued for several minutes.

FATAH'S ABU IYAD MEETS PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST LEADERS

JN111650 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 11 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, met at noon today with Walid Junblatt, chief of the Progressive Socialist Party. The meeting was attended by brother Tawfiq Sultan.

Our correspondent has learned that during the meeting, discussion centered on current Arab and international developments, particularly the issue of further promoting Palestinian-Lebanese cohesion and the recent situation in southern Lebanon, which is facing a calculated Zionist war of exacerbation against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Brother Abu Iyad also met with brother Muhsin Ibrahim, executive secretary general of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement Central Political Council. The meeting was attended by brother Fawwaz Tarabulsi. Abu Iyad and Muhsin Ibrahim reviewed recent developments in the area and means of coping with the Zionist racist aggression on southern Lebanon.

FATAH'S ABU JIHAD MEETS SHI'ITE COUNCIL MEMBER, OTHERS

JN121824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee and Al-'Asifah Forces General Command member, visited His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council yesterday. The meeting lasted for about 90 minutes during which discussion centered on the current situation in southern Lebanon and the suffering of our Lebanese and Palestinian masses in the south due to the blatant Zionist aggression against Lebanon.

Within the framework of his periodic meetings with various religious and political figures, brother Abu Jihad also visited Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan. Abu Jihad then visited deputy Husayn al-Husayni, secretary general of the Amal movement. These meetings are part of Fatah's efforts to cope with the plots in the Lebanese arena, particularly in the south.

IRAQI BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL MEETS WITH JUNBLATT

JN111737 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Beirut--Comrade Radi Farahat, assistant secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, has met with Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt in Lebanon.

The 30-minute meeting was attended by Comrade abu Yunis, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party representative in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's Central Council.

Junblatt announced that the meeting comes within the framework of strengthening relations between the two parties, adding that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has resumed its natural role in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's Central Political Council and that it has greatly contributed to building and strengthening this movement at the most critical times.

Junblatt praised Iraq's stand and the moral and financial support it has contributed to the Lebanese Nationalist Powers, which have and will always confront the Zionist-Isolationist scheme, in order to achieve Lebanon's unity, Arabism and democratic development.

NEW TRANSMITTER 'VOICE OF HOPE' BROADCASTING IN SOUTH

[Editorial Report NC] Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope was heard at 1003 sign-on on 11 September identifying itself in English as "High Adventure's Voice of Hope radio station from Free Lebanon, the Valley of the Springs." The programming was mainly in English and consisted of U. S. country and pop music interspersed with recorded quotations from the Bible and occasional remarks such as: "You are listening to the newest radio station in the world", "It's nice to be here in Lebanon with great, friendly people", "We hope you are enjoying our programs"; "The Voice of Hope on 936, new on the air waves", and "We are on the air to give and to share".

At 1530 GMT, the announcer introduced "Major Haddad, who is here in the studio." The latter spoke in Arabic for about 2 minutes, saying the following:

"The Voice of Hope from Free Lebanon greets you and wishes you good, happy times. It announces that effective tonight, you will be hearing Lebanese music from 1600 to 1700 daily.

"Incidentally, I would like to say that His Excellency President Sarkis has been seeking a meeting with the biggest terrorist, Yasir 'Arafat, but the latter has not been kind enough to grant him the blessing of a meeting, so he sent him his henchman and assistant, Abu Iyad. So congratulations to President Sarkis and to sovereignty in Lebanon!

"May you live long! Long live Lebanon, free, sovereign and independent!"

At 1600-1630 GMT, the station carried a program of Lebanese music, with no announcements.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD ACCEPTS ECONOMY MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

JN121812 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 12 September--President Hafiz al-Asad has accepted the resignation of Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, economy and foreign trade minister, due to his election as the director of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and his assumption of that post.

INTERIOR MINISTER URGES POLICE ALERTNESS

JN130734 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 13 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Interior Minister Brig Gen 'Adnan Dabbagh has presided over a meeting of the governorates' police commanders. During the meeting, the participants reviewed security issues in the governorates and the measures that should be taken on these issues.

The interior minister asked the police commanders to urge their men to carry out their duties fully and to remain alert in order to arrest all those who try to tamper with Syria's security. The interior minister stressed the need to continue efforts in pursuing all those who violate the law or who tamper with security, in order to arrest them and bring them to trial.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH VISITING JAPANESE MISSION

JN121421 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 12 September--This afternoon, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received the Japanese Mission for Developing Understanding Between Japan and the Middle East States at his office. The delegation is headed by (Yoshi Hui), head of the Middle East Institute and the Japanese foreign minister's adviser. The meeting was attended by Japan's ambassador in Damascus.

The deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister explained the latest Middle East developments to the mission, affirming the necessity for strengthening Japanese-Syrian relations, particularly in the economic and cultural fields.

ATH-THAWRAH COMMENTS ON REPORTS OF U.S. FORCES ON MASIRAH

JN130928 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Sep 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Objectives of the Feverish U.S. Actions," ATH-THAWRAH says: The feverish U.S. actions against the Arab area have taken on new and grave dimensions, whether through implementation of the Camp David conspiracy--specifically, implementation of the provisions on liquidating the Palestinian cause within the framework of the autonomy conspiracy--or through reactivation of the gangs of collusion in Lebanon and the escalation of tension in, and shelling of, southern Lebanon in cooperation with the Zionist enemy, with the purpose of destroying the cities and villages there and forcing their inhabitants to leave the area.

Reports about U.S. troops landing on Masirah Island are a new aspect of U.S. actions and are in harmony with the recurrent U.S. threats to Arab oil-producing countries. They also imply that the United States is ready to carry out these threats.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The United States appears to have moved to an advanced position on the path of implementing the comprehensive conspiracy. At this stage, the United States seems to want to create new zones of tension, in order to divert Arab attention while the Camp David parties carry out the liquidation of the cause, under the cover of autonomy.

The United States realizes that the subjugation of the Egyptian regime does not mean the subjugation of the Arabs and that the Egyptian regime's fall into the morass of treason has transformed the entire Arab homeland, despite some who are hesitant and others who remain silent, into a front of steadfastness that can be neither ignored nor flouted. This has happened because the Arab masses are the instrument of such steadfastness. When the masses form the major force in any equation, all conspiratorial attempts founder on the rock of their alertness and their commitment to their pan-Arab objectives.

By sending troops to nearby bases and placing them on alert, the United States is now seeking to use these troops as a big stick to frighten the Arab nation, or at least to frighten those who are hesitating or are silent. The United States is mistaken if it believes that by doing so it can weaken the forces of steadfastness and confrontation or cause them to budge from their positions.

In conclusion, the paper says: U.S. calculations are based on the Camp David conspiracies and on an aggressive strategy against the Arab nation. These facts are known by Arab citizens throughout the Arab homeland. When the Arab masses chose to confront the conspiracy and rallied around the major forces of confrontation, with Syria at the forefront of these forces, they took all eventualities into account. The Arab masses are capable of confronting the policy of aggression with the potential that they possess. They are capable of resisting the enemy schemes, because they are defending a just cause and are waging a legitimate struggle.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT BENDJEDID RECEIVES TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD122145 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, received in his office today Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri, who handed the president a message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. It was learned that the message deals with the work and results of the recently held congress of the Socialist Destourian Party [SDP]. This is within the framework of the traditional relations between the two parties, the FLN and the SDP. The meeting also dealt with the means of consolidating relations between the two counties and fraternal peoples.

The Tunisian minister was also received by brother Abdelghani, Political Bureau member and prime minister. The talks, which were attended by the Tunisian ambassador to Algeria, dealt with bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries.

ASH-SHA'B: AS-SADAT, HASSAN II COLLABORATE WITH ENEMIES

LD120851 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Two Sides of the Same Coin"]

[Excerpts] It was not a coincidence that President as-Sadat went to occupied Palestine to negotiate with Menahem Begin on how to sell out all the Palestinian people's rights at the same time as the leaders of the nonalined states were meeting in Havana in order to guarantee and secure the rights of all persecuted or dispersed peoples, including the Palestinian people.

Nor was it a coincidence that the Rabat regime should choose the convening of the nonalined summit as the time to escalate its military aggression against the Western Saharan people, to charge the atmosphere in the area with tension and explosiveness and to ask its ally As-Sadat to help it militarily in its aggressive war against a people struggling for their right to self-determination. It was not surprising that As-Sadat should immediately respond to this request and publicly declare his participation in an aggressive and unjust war.

All these steps were not coincidental. Rather, they were a planned and studied action taken at the behest of the United States and under its auspices, an action for which there were signs and indications. These signs and indications include:

As-Sadat's choice of the date of the convening of the nonalined conference to go to Haifa and meet with the butcher Begin clearly indicate that he has defined his stand on the side of the butchers of the Palestinian people and the usurpers of their homeland who are also the bitterest enemies of the nonalined movement.

Just as As-Sadat abandoned the Arab confrontation fron for the Zionist-imperialist front which is hostile to the entire Arab nation, he has now abandoned the nonalined movement and alined himself with the front of its enemies.

However As-Sadat may try to camouflage and cover up his position in the front of the enemies of the Arab nation and of the nonalined movement in general, he is no longer able to conceal his real stand now all his treasonous ploys have been uncovered.

The relations between As-Sadat and Hassan II are built on a common aggressive base with one and the same aim, despite attempts at misleading and falsifications. Both As-Sadat and Hassan II, each in his own way, are waging aggression against the Palestinian people and the Saharan people and are doing all they can to do away with their right to self-determination. They both support one another militarily and politically for this purpose, either publicly as As-Sadat is doing, or secretly as Hassan II is doing. This aggressive relationship and mutual support reveals the "farce" of Morocco's boycott of As-Sadat's regime.

Both the Moroccan and Egyptian regimes are facing suffocating international isolation because of their dissent and aggressive behavior and their total surrender to imperialism and Zionism. Through their solidarity in aggression they are trying to break the isolation facing them on the Arab, African and international fronts.

The actions of the Egyptian regime and the Moroccan regime in the Arab arena and the nonalined arena are closely linked to U.S. policy and accord with its instructions. Cairo and Rabat are two sides of the same American coin.

LIBYA

KUWAITI FINANCE MINISTER ATIQI ARRIVES 8 SEP

LD082013 Tripoli JANA in English 1701 GMT 8 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Sep JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Kuwaiti financial minister, 'Abd al-Rahman Atiqi, arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The Kuwait minister was received at Tripoli International Airport by Muhammad az-Zarruk Rajab, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Treasury, its undersecretary, the director of the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank and a representative from the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

In a statement to our correspondent, Mr Atiqi commended the friendly relations between the Jamahiriyah and his country. This cooperation, he added, stems from an awareness and understanding of the joint efforts to be made at all levels during this difficult stage through which the Arab nation is passing.

He added that the Jamahiriyah and Kuwait have played a key role to this effect and that this visit would promote this role in the service of the Arab nation.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN ACCEPTS BOURGUIBA MEDIATION PROPOSAL

LD121924 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Rabat--It was announced in Rabat today that King Hassan II has agreed to the proposal made by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba for convening a Moroccan-Algerian summit in Tunis between King Hassan II and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in an attempt to solve present differences over the Sahara question.

The letters exchanged in this connection between Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and His Majesty King Hassan II were disclosed today. The cable of the Tunisian president reads:

I have followed with great concern tensions in the Western Sahara and the bad consequences they involve, which are not in the interest of the two countries of the region. In the name of Arab fraternity and out of zeal for peace in the Maghreb, I would like to propose to you, brother, accepting the principle of meeting President Chadli Bendjedid with the objective of reaching a solution that will preserve peace and restore to the peoples of the Arab Maghreb hopes for the establishment of joint cooperation that will enable them to pool their resources for construction and development and put an end to armaments and destruction.

At at time when we are about the receive 'Id al-Fitr, when all Muslims call for sincere hearts and goodwill, I hope you will agree to the principle of meeting. I will be happy to welcome you in the second homeland, Tunisia, at the time agreed upon.

His Majesty King Hassan II replied to President Bourguiba's letter, saying:

We thank you for your letter, which we received on 22 August 1979.

Naturally--you being the notable witness regarding events in our history and a founder of the national movement in the Maghreb--you cannot but follow with interest the regrettable deterioration at present in our region. We are fully aware of the advantages of a dialog, especially if this dialog is called for and sponsored by a man of your brilliance, sound judgment and wisdom.

Therefore, we gladly welcome your proposal, which aims at bringing us together under your auspices in Tunis with the leading Algerian authorities.

We are confident that this initiative of yours, sponsored by you personally, will have the best of effects and will be very effective as far as the group of countries of the greater Arab Maghreb are concerned.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE HANI AL-HASAN ISSUES STATEMENT

LD122035 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Excerpt] Rabat--The Moroccan paper AR-RA'Y today published a press statement by Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and the organization's representatives in Tehran, when he stopped over in Morocco on his way back from Havana where he attended the sixth summit conference of nonalined states.

Hani al-Hasan announced that Yasir 'Arafat will visit Morocco shortly following his tour of Europe.

Regarding the American attitude, Hani al-Hasan emphasized that armed struggle will compel the United States to recognize the PLO and to negotiate with it.

He pointed out that he raised with his majesty the question of a Palestinian government-in-exile. We believe that the time has not come yet to take this step.

Regarding the situation in northwestern Africa, Hani al-Hasan said: We must make constant efforts to put an end to the dispute in North Africa because this fratricidal war will have negative effects on the Palestinian issue and will give the enemies of the Arab nation the opportunity to maneuver in the region. He said that for this purpose, the PLO is studying the possibility of finding a solution acceptable to all parties in the region.

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL ACCORD WITH SAUDI ARABIA RATIFIED

LD081430 Rabat MAP in English 1258 GMT 8 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, Sep 8 (MAP)--Morocco and Saudi Arabia exchanged here Friday the instruments of ratification of the economic and technical cooperation agreement, signed in Riyadh, April 21, 1976.

The two countries agreed to promote cooperation between the state institutions, to exchange experiences and studies, to develop the processing industry, and tocoordinate their action in the geologic field. In this respect the two parties will work for the achievement of projects of development and will set up joint companies. The capital invested in each of the two countries will beneficiate from the measures of encouragement and from the industrial protection forecast by the national legislations.

Regarding the technical cooperation, the agreement foresees the exchange of experts, the creation of experiment centers in the fields that will be determined in the future, possibilities of perfecting internships in the industrial field, extraction and commercialization of crude phosphates as well as its derived products. The heavy industry and fishing are the other points of the technical cooperation.

This agreement will come into effect 15 days after the exchange of the ratification instruments. A joint commission will set up a precise program of the cooperation between the two countries.

Mohamed Mostapha Larbi, director of the judicial affairs and treaties at the Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Ministry, and Shaykh Fakhri Shaykh al-Ard, Saudi ambassador to Rabat, exchanged the ratification instruments.

TUNISIA

BOURGUIBA INVITES HASSAN, BENDJEDID TO TALKS

LD121802 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The Algerian president and the king of Morocco may have a meeting. The Tunisian head of state, Habib Bourguiba, has at any rate sent out a joint invitation to the two heads of state. King Hassan II has already made known his reply. It is positive. We are now awaiting that of President Chadli Bendjedid.

NEW DEFENSE MINISTER, POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBERS APPOINTED

LD121713 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning at the Republican Palace in Carthage received Prime Minister Hedi Nouira in the presence of Habib Bourguiba, Jr, private adviser of the president.

The prime minister submitted a report on the government's activities. The meeting then dealt with new appointments in the Political Bureau, concerning At-Tijani 'Ubaydi in place of Habib 'Ashur; Rachid Sfar to succeed Tijani Makki; Muhammad Ghnimah to succeed Larbi Mallakh; Dr ash-Shadli bin Ja'far to succeed Chedli Klibi in view of his assuming the post of general secretary of the Arab League; and Ali Sellami to succeed Driss Guiga in view of his becoming Tunisian ambassador to Bonn.

The presidency of the republic has issued the following statement: Rachid Sfar has been appointed minister of national defense, succeeding Abdallah Farhat.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON AMBASSADOR STRAUSS' CURRENT VISIT

Strauss, Burg Interviews

TA121241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] The special U.S. envoy, Robert Strauss, met this morning in Jerusalem with Israel's negotiating team on the autonomy talks. David Essing reports. [begin recording]

[Essing] Ambassador Strauss has come to Egypt and Israel to explore what has been accomplished and where to go from here in the autonomy negotiations. After his talks in Jerusalem, Strauss says he is satisfied with progress so far and he now sees eye to eye with Prime Minister Begin and President as-Sadat.

[Strauss] We are in accord, as we found accord in Cairo, that in reviewing the progress of the autonomy groups that we really are certainly up to schedule, if not ahead of schedule, with respect to where we had expected to be in September. We now move into what I have termed previously, into second gear or a bit of quickened pace, and we intend to do so by intensifying our discussions on a far broader set of issues at a technical level. We hope those technical teams will be able to work for longer periods of time with more intensity than they have been able to do in the past, and that we hope that sufficient technical progress will have been made by December--towards the end of the year--that we will be ready to take these up at the plenary level.

[Essing] But in contrast to his previous visit to Jerusalem Strauss told Israeli officials that there is no urgent need to get the Palestinians, not to speak of the PLO, into the autonomy talks. The U.S. was not trying to, as he put it, woo the Palestinians to negotiate.

[Strauss] We all are interested in, number one, seeing that these discussions proceed. My mandate is--and I believe it is the intention of each of the other parties--my personal mandate from the President is that these discussions should continue within the framework of 242, 338 and the Camp David accords and the joint letter, and this is what President as-Sadat said in Cairo. It's what I have said here, it is what Prime Minister Begin has said, it is what the President has instructed me, and it is what the President has said. Now, how we go about that every day and in every way really is a matter of some complete indifference. It is getting that job done.

[Essing] Had Strauss offered any new ideas today? Israel's chief autonomy negotiator Yosef Burg was pleased to answer that question.

[Burg] We have the same ideas, if not still better. We were talking about more technical working groups--more than one or two--and I believe that it is good progress we made.

[Essing] But you were talking about the technical level. To what are you referring?

[Burg] I am referring very simply. If there are questions of agriculture or economy, of the setup of the educational system--all these are technical questions from my point of view and not political questions. Politics are involved but, anyhow, to this I referred.

[Essing] Did the question of Jerusalem and security in the territories come up today at all?

[Burg] The question of Jerusalem was mentioned as a question that we don't discuss.

[Essing] Was there a consensus on when the Palestinians should join the autonomy talks? And if so what was it?

[Burg] That is a very interesting question because it is not a question of consensus between me and Strauss or between Strauss and me; it is first of all the Palestinians themselves who have to decide. [end recording]

Strauss Remarks to Editors

TA121510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] Special U.S. Ambassador Robert Strauss has expressed the hope that the technical talks on issues pertaining to the autonomy would be completed by the end of this year and their scope would be deepened and widened beginning next year.

Strauss would prefer that the Jordanians and the Palestinians participate in the autonomy talks. However, he emphasized that the talks would proceed with their current format. Strauss was talking to Israeli newspaper editors.

Strauss said that at this stage the United States would not demand the discussion of questions of principle, including the question of Jerusalem. However, these issues would be discussed in due time.

"Summarizing Talk" With Begin

TA121628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] U.S. special Ambassador Robert Strauss held a brief summarizing talk with the Prime Minister this afternoon. Strauss said later that he was happy to be able to report to President Carter that Prime Minister Begin thinks that Strauss's visit to Israel was very positive and that a good presentation of Israel's cause was now in hand. Strauss added that President as-Sadat also subscribes to this opinion.

This afternoon, the working teams of Israel, Egypt and the United States ended 4 days of debates in Herzliyya and submitted a joint report to the ministerial teams on the authority of the administrative council. The report contains issues that have been settled and issues requiring further discussion. Another working team prepared a report on the election procedures for the administrative council.

Meeting With Dayan

TA121826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan ended a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Robert Strauss a few minutes ago. After the meeting Ambassador Strauss said that a considerable part of the talk was dedicated to the Lebanon problem. He mentioned that this issue is not exactly in Minister Dayan's sphere of responsibility. Mr Dayan said that he expressed to Strauss Israel's concern about the suffering caused to the Lebanese population.

Earlier the special U.S. ambassador had said that some of the arguments made by the Israeli delegation in the talks with the U.S. and Egyptian representatives are intended for domestic use only.

Ambassador Strauss confirmed that this is what he said in his talk with Minister Burg last night. However, he denied a report that in his remarks about domestic use he referred to Ministers Tamir and Sharon.

Reacting to this today Minister Shmu'el Tamir said that the Israeli ministers are representing their electorate. In a meeting of the Democratic Movement's Council Minister Tamir added that in Ambassador Strauss' opinion, the negotiations are being conducted at a better pace than expected. The main progress is in the process of normalization, improving relations and increasing mutual trust. The differences of opinion have been pinpointed, and this will help the parties to cope with them.

Dayan Comments on Meeting

TA121839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] And now, back to the meeting of Ambassador Robert Strauss with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in Tel Aviv. After the meeting Moshe Dayan had this to say:

[Dayan--begin recording] We discussed...It is not exactly within the responsibility of my ministry but I am in a position--and that's what I did--to explain Israel's policy about it [southern Lebanon] and especially to make two points: The first is that we do not have any war against the civilians and that we would try everything within our capability and within our means to have the Lebanese civilian farmers staying in their homes and their villages nad not leaving them. We don't have any war against them, and we are more than worried and sorry when we see that some of them are leaving their villages. This is not the end of the war. The other point is that we fully support the integrity of Lebanon and we would like to see a solution of the problem which would keep the integrity of Lebanon. [end recording]

HA'ARETZ Report on Visit

TA130941 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Sep 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[Text] The last visit of special U.S. Ambassador Robert Strauss to Israel and Egypt was primarily intended to assure the United States a role in the autonomy negotiations. This was the assessment senior government circles voiced last night at the end of the talks between Strauss, the prime minister and the ministerial committee to the autonomy negotiations.

According to those sources, the United States has retreated from its original approach to accelerate the pace of the negotiations and strive to coopt the Palestinians as soon as possible. The sources emphasized that during the talks yesterday Strauss was remarkably compliant with the Israeli and Egyptian ideas on the pace and nature of the negotiations. Strauss noted that As-Sadat's confidence in the peace process and in his ability to find a common language with Prime Minister Menahem Begin had increased. The assessment prevailing last night was that the negotiations during the next 3 months will be conducted by the working teams and the committees' plenums at a relaxed pace. The negotiations on the difficult problems regarding the nature of the autonomy will start only at the beginning of next year.

In a luncheon with several Knesset members and public figures Strauss said that the Egyptian president had told him that it was not he--As-Sadat--but Prime Minister Begin who had to make the great sacrifice in order to achieve peace, since Begin had to overcome great psychological difficulties to agree to Egypt's terms of peace. [paragraph continues]

Strauss added that the U.S. involvement in the autonomy negotiations did not stem from oil considerations but from an ideological commitment which regards the achievement of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East as a sublime moral mission.

The luncheon was attended by MK Mordekhay Gur, MK Mikha Harish, MK David Glass, MK Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, MK Yosef Rom and MK Avraham Sharir among others.

Last night Strauss had another meeting with Dr Yosef Burg in which he informed the minister that the United States would send experts to each of the working teams to be set up in the framework of the autonomy negotiations which will deal with the professional issues concerning the activities of the administrative councils in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs will meet today at the foreign minister's office and hear a report on the talks which ended in Herzliyya yesterday.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent in the Sharon Valley, Asher Qizner, adds: The Israeli ministerial committee to the autonomy talks will propose to the Egyptian delegation widening the scope of issues discussed by the joint working teams. Israel will submit this proposal at the meeting of the committees' plenums in Alexandria on 26 September. This was reported by the chairman of the Israeli committee, Dr Yosef Burg, to President Carter's representative at the autonomy talks, Robert Strauss, in a meeting they held in Jerusalem this morning.

AUTONOMY WORKING TEAMS TO SUBMIT JOINT DOCUMENT

TA121634 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] The autonomy negotiating teams will submit a joint document drafted during the 4 days of debate in Herzliyya to the ministerial committees of both countries. At the end of the debates, our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar heard the remarks of the head of the Israeli team, Dr Me'ir Rosenne.

[Rosenne--begin recording] This is the first time that we have submitted a joint report to the ministers. The joint report refers to the work done by the committee, which discussed the authority of the administrative council to be set up according to the autonomy plan. In this report we note the points on which we have reached an agreement as well as the points which still have to de discussed. In addition, there was a working team which discussed the arrangements for the elections. This team also went into details and submitted a report which will be delivered to the ministers meeting in Alexandria at the end of this month. [end recording]

[Shahar] To my question on whether the difference of opinion between the sides might create a crisis in the talks, Dr Rosenne replied:

[Rosenne--begin recording] I do not believe in crises as a rule. One cannot expect that all the problems can be solved at once. However, it is assumed that progress will be made until the end of this year. Yet, I cannot foresee the extent of this progress. [end recording]

FARMERS ALLOWED TO CROSS SINAI BOUNDARY TO HARVEST CROPS

TA121457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] Farmers from Al-'Arish will be allowed to cross into Israeli territory to harvest the crops from their plantations.

Farmers from Israeli territory will be allowed to cross into Al-'Arish for the same purpose. This was decided by the joint Israeli-Egyptian military committee.

Our correspondent Bassam Ja'abar notes that this involves about 100 farmers.

ENERGY MINISTER REPORTEDLY HOLDING OIL TALKS IN OSLO

TA110910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 11 Sep 79 TA

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i who is presently visiting Oslo, is discussing oil issues there, despite Norway's denial of this yesterday. Our correspondent Yosi Melman says that the minister asked that his trip be kept secret. Our correspondent adds that in his talks in Oslo Moda'i will want to examine the possibility of buying oil from Norway in the future. In the past Israel wanted to purchase oil there but the Norwegians said that they had undertaken to sell all the oil they produce to other countries until 1981.

WEST BANK LAND CLOSED FOR IDF TRAINING AREA

TA130800 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Sep 79 p 2 TA

[By Ian Black and David Richardson]

[Excerpts] The military authorities have closed off some 15,000 dunams of land in the West Bank village of Dayr Istiya near Nabulus to serve as an IDF training area.

The chairman of the village council, Muhammad Amin Al-Qadi was informed by the military governor of Tulqarm on Tuesday that the area was henceforth closed to local residents.

The East Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS reported under a huge front-page banner headline yesterday that the Dayr Istiya landowners plan to send telegrams to Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and to the West Bank military government protesting the decision.

The IDF spokesman confirmed to the Jerusalem POST that the area has been designated as suitable for military manoeuvres and has been closed accordingly.

The spokesman added that most of the area was rocky and uncultivated and that the owners of the few cultivated plots would be permitted to continue to work their land subject to military approval.

In related developments, residents of Idnah, a village north of Hebron, claim that the authorities have closed off 700 dunams of cultivated land for the planned "Trans-Judaea Highway" near Gush 'Ezyon.

Villagers from Bayt Qad, near Janin, say that the military government has seized several hundred dunams of land in the area for settlement purposes. But IDF sources insist that the area has been closed for the construction of a military installation.

AL-QUDS devoted its editorial yesterday to settlement in the administered territories and commented sarcastically that there was no significance to the dispute between Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon and Deputy Premier Yiga'el Yadin.

"It is not true, God forbid, that one supports settlement and the other opposes it. [paragraph continues]

"Settlement activity is continuing apace." The article questions whether settlement is not a "barrier to peace" despite the growing friendship between Premier Menahem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. The editorial was entitled "Settlement, Peace and Friendship."

IDF PREVENTS SHAVEI SHOMRON SETTLERS FROM SEIZING LAND

TA121700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 TA

[Text] The settlers of Shavei Shomron broke down the fence surrounding their settlement to seize land in their vicinity. Upon learning of this, however, the military government expeditiously sent an IDF unit to the site, returned the settlers and repaired the fence. A sentry was placed on the site to prevent a recurrence of the incident.

LIVING STANDARDS RISE IN WEST BANK, GAZA, NORTHERN SINAI

TA050745 Jerusalem POST in English 5 Sep 79 p 3 TA

[By Shlomo Maoz, Jerusalem POST economic reporter]

[Text] Per capita private consumption in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai rose by 7 percent a year during 1977 and 1978, according to figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Gross National Product [GNP] in the West Bank rose in the same period by 7 percent, and by 4 percent in the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai.

In the decade following 1968, GNP rose in the West Bank by an average of 13 percent a year, in real terms (11 percent per capita). Figures for the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai are 12 percent (10 percent per capita).

The rise in GNP in the West Bank over the past two years is primarily due to a rise of 21 percent in the number of those working in the Arab states; there was no growth in the number of those working in Israel.

A report by the bureau says that the success or failure of the West Bank's olive crop, one of the major crops in the area, has a profound influence on GNP. The 1978 olive crop was five times as successful as the 1977 crop.

COST OF LIVING INDEX RISES 8 PERCENT IN AUGUST

TA130702 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Sep 79 p 1 TA

[By Shlomo Maoz, POST economic reporter]

[Excerpt] With the August Consumer Price Index due to be published tomorrow, treasury and Bank of Israel estimates are that prices rose during August by some 8 percent. The steep rise is explained by a combination of factors: price rises for fuel, electricity and basic foodstuffs, and the cost-of-living increment paid at the start of August on July salaries. If treasury estimates are correct, then there has been a 52 percent price rise so far this year. Yesterday, Histadrut sources said that if prices are rising at such an alarming rate, they will demand cost-of-living increments every two months in an endeavour to ensure that workers' wages keep pace with inflation.

BAZARGAN: GOVERNMENT WILL NOT INTERFERE IN AFGHANISTAN

LD122144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Excerpts] Eng Mehdi Bazargan, the prime minister, at the end of his 1-day visit to the Sistan va Baluchestan Province, gave an exclusive interview to the PARS correspondent in Zabol.

In answer to the question put to him regarding the most important problem in the region, Mr Bazargan said: The problem of our Afghan brothers is the most important problem in this province. They consider this area their home, and since some of them face difficulties financially and in finding places to live, a special place should be allocated for them. Mr Bazargan added: I have clearly stated that these brothers are not allowed to engage in military and political activities here or to take part in the traffic of arms, and the authorities are severly preventing these operations. Measures should be taken to prevent our Muslim brothers from spreading out to other parts of the country.

At the end of his talk, the prime minister said: We pray to God for our Muslim brothers to succeed and that peace and independence be restored in their country, but the Iranian Government will not interfere in their affairs in any way. Since, if we take such action, we can hardly ask other countries not to interfere in our affairs.

Bazargan 11 Sep Speech

NC121707 Paris AFP in English 1616 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[By Yves Heller]

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sep 12 (AFP)--Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan has publicly stated his own position following the outright denunciation at the weekend of western culture and values by the country's religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

He believed they should take from the West that which was useful, and reject that which was contrary to the nation and to Islam, he told a crowd of tens of thousands here yesterday.

Mr Bazargan denounced at length the "grip" of the West and its "pernicious influence" on the East, accusing the West of having sought to dominate Iran and supporting the regime of its deposed ruler the shah.

But at no point did the prime minister reject the West in its entirety.

Mr. Bazargan was however careful to link his point of view with that of Ayatollah Mahmud Taleqani, the respected Tehran religious leader said by the authorities to have died of a heart attack early on Monday.

The prime minister, who was speaking on the second of three days of officials mourning for the president of Iran's secretive Islamic Revolutionary Council, described him as a "true revolutionary."

KHOMEYNI SENDS ENVOY TO INVESTIGATE OIL INDUSTRY

LD121240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] On the orders of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran Hojjat ol-Eslam Eshragi will leave this evening for Mah Shahr, formerly Shahrud, to investigate the situation of the storage tanks and the problems of the oil industry.

Khomeyni Receives Guard Commander

LD130748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Sep 79 LD

[Text] At 2130, Mr Zamani known as Abu-Sharif, commander of operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was received by Imam Khomeyni at his residence to present him with the report of the operations of the Guards Corps in Kordestan.

FRIDAY PRAYERS FOR 14 SEP TO BE AT BEHESHT-E ZAHRA CEMETERY

LD121706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the office of the Ayatollah Montazeri today:

In His exalted name: All the Muslim brothers and sisters are hereby informed that following the message issued by the illustrious leader of the revolution, His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni--may his shadow never grow smaller--pertaining to holding Tehran's Friday congregational prayers under the leadership of Ayatollah Montazeri, and out of respect for the martyrs of the Islamic revolution of Iran and in order to glorify the lofty position of the great mojahed and tireless struggler, His Excellency Ayatollah Taleqani--may his burden be made light--and in order to renew the convenant with that martyred one and with the pure martyrs of the revolution, the Friday congregational prayers will be held in Behesht-e Zahra cemetery on Friday 14 September. In coming weeks, prayers will be held as usual at Tehran University.

Peace and God's mercy and benedictions be upon you.

[Signed] The office of Ayatollah Montazeri, 12 September.

'ARAFAT CONDOLENCES TO KHOMEYNI ON TALEQANI DEATH

JN111140 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 11 Sep 79 JN

["Text" of cable of condolences sent by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Ayatollah Khomeyni on Ayatollah Taleqani's death]

[Text] The great brother mojahed Ayatollah Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni, may God preserve him, greetings. We have received with pain and sorrow the news of the death of Ayatollah Mahmud Taleqani. This took place when we need those like the esteemed brother mojahedin to defend the banner of Islam and that of the Islamic Iranian revolution. The struggle of the heroic Iranian people and their great revolution are encountering critical circumstances as a result of what colonialist and Zionist quarters are concocting. These quarters are trying to quell liberation and independence forces in this sensitive area of the world. The great brother mojahed: While offering our sincere condolences over the death of Ayatollah Mahmud Taleqani, we are also contrite over the loss of this devout leader and great mojahed who always supported justice in Palestine and dear Iran. However, our entrenched belief in the inevitable triumph of the heroic Iranian people under your wise leadership consoles us in this affliction.

We ask almighty God to grant you long life and to give you, the family of the deceased and the Iranian people patience and consolation. From God we come, and to Him we return. It is a revolution until victory!

[Signed] Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Iraqi President Expresses Condolences

JN121255 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 September--President Saddam Husayn today dispatched staff Col Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, secretary general of the Revolution Command Council and acting chief of the presidential office, to the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad to express condolences over the death of Ayatollah Mahmud Taleqani.

Bakhtiar on Taleqani Death

NC120155 Paris AFP in English 1043 GMT 12 Sep 79 NC

[Text] Paris, Sept 12--(AFP)--Former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar said here today that the death on Monday of Teheran religious chief Ayatollah Mahmud Taleqani, will affect all progressive forces in Iran, both religious and secular. He told AFP the 68-year-old ayatollah represented for the youth of his country "the symbol of Islam with a human face."

Mr Bakhtiar added: "He embodied the progressive and democratic wing of religious circles..." He led a merciless fight over a quarter of a century and endured atrocious suffering without losing courage."

The former premier, now living in exile in France, said he saw the strength of Ayatollah Taleqani's character when they served jail terms together in Iran.

FOREIGN MINISTER CABLES GREETINGS TO SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

JN121654 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Sep 79 JN

[Text of cable from Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Ebrahim Yazdi to President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of Yazdi's departure from Syria--date not specified]

[Text] I was gladdened by my visit to the fraternal Muslim country, Syria, and by meeting and talking with your excellency on my way back home from the nonalined summit conference. Thanking you for the welcome and generous hospitality accorded me, I ask the Almighty to grant you continued health and success and the Syrian Muslim people continued progress and prosperity.

GENDARMERIE STATEMENT ON TURNING IN ARMS, PARDONS

LD121820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

According to reports received from Kermanshah, a group of counterrevolutionaries in the Nocheh area have spread a rumor that if members of the defunct Democratic Party hand in their weapons and surrender, they will be arrested and sentenced to death or long prison terms. As a result, some of the youth have been deceived and have taken refuge in the surrounding mountains. The gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while denying these ill-intentioned rumors, announces that members of the defunct Democratic Party who hand in their weapons--providing their hands are not smeared with the blood of the people--will be treated according to the order issued by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, and will be pardoned. Therefore, we hereby ask the compatriots to turn in their weapons as soon as possible and receive shelter under the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Kurdish Leader Grants Interview

AU110900 Rome ANSA in English 0815 GMT 11 Sep 79 AU

[Text] Paris, September 11 (ANSA) The Kurdish resistance in Iran will continue at any cost, according to the secretary general of the Iranian Democratic Party of Kordestan. Abdul Rahman Qasemlu, in an interview with the French leftist paper LIBERATION.

The Democratic Party of Kordestan is responsible for mobilizing the inhabitants of Iran's Kordestan Province against the Iranian Islamic Republic's charismatic leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Qasemlu, interviewed by the French paper's correspondent in the mountain refuge where the Kurd leader withdrew after last week's clashes with Iranian troops, said that "those in Tehran and abroad who think that the Kurd resistance ended in Mahabad (the Kurd city overtaken by government troops last week, ed.) are wrong. "Our war has not even begun", Qasemlu said. The Kurdish leader denied that his people suffered a defeat in Mahabad and added that they "had never presumed they would keep control of the city". Qasemlu concluded saying that "we are preparing for a long war, a guerrilla war in all of Iranian Kordestan and we will carry it forward to victory--an autonomous Kordestan within a democratic Iran."

Cleanup Operation in Salmas

LD112034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Col Ruhani Shams, commander of the 2d Brigade in the town of Salmas, in a telephone conversation with the correspondent of the PARS AGENCY in Urumiyeh, has stated: The units of Salmas 2d Brigade, with the cooperation of the gendarmerie and the mojahedin who had been dispatched to clean up the Salmas region, without encountering any resistance from or clashes with the outlaws, and after cleaning up the area, successfully returned to the town of Salmas. During these operations several weapons, radios and cars plundered by the outlaws from the Mahabad garrison and from the border posts in the Qotur region were seized by government forces. The commander of Salmas 2d Brigade added that all people in Salmas have declared weapons in their possession and expressed readiness to hand over the weapons when the area is cleared of outlaws and security is guaranteed with the setting up of gendarmerie posts. He said: During cleaning-up operations, the people of the villages and of other areas in Salmas, carrying pictures of Imam Khomeyni, warmly welcomed the forces dispatched to the area.

PARTY PROTESTS INNOCENCE OF SOCIALISTS CHARGED WITH SABOTAGE

LD121309 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 6 Sep 79 p 16 LD

[Unattributed report: "Letter From the Socialist Workers Party to the Prosecutor General for the Revolution"]

[Text] A letter to Ayatollah Qodusi, prosecutor-general for the revolution, from the Socialist Workers Party refers to the views expressed by the government spokesman concerning the 14 Socialists imprisoned in Ahwaz on disputed charges of being involved in the gas pipeline explosions and carrying out armed attacks on innocent people and against the Islamic revolution of Iran, and notes:

The Socialist Workers' Party has always determined its central duty to be the patient explanation of its program, which is to state the rights of workers and toilers in the proposed constitution. Neither the party nor its members are armed; they have never been armed. Moreover, they have never believed in taking such a course. The Socialist Workers Party is opposed to any kind of terrorism, sabotage, destruction or conspiracy."

The letter explains that they had done nothing apart from selling workers publications and expounding the party's suggested articles for the constitution, and authorities on the committee in Ahwaz were aware of their activities. It is indicated that a trial of the 14 party members has been held in camera. The letter ends with an appeal to Ayatollah Qodusi for the well-being of the party members in prison, asking that they be transferred to Tehran, and stressing that an investigation by the prosecutor general himself would prove the innocence of the prisoners.

MUSLIM PARTY ON CENSORSHIP, ACTION AGAINST 'SABOTEURS'

LD120931 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 9 Sep 79 p 2 LD

[KEYHAN correspondent report: "Muslim People's Republican Party resolution on the occasion of 17 Shahrivar"]

[Text] Tabriz--In a resolution read at the end of yesterday's demonstrations, the Muslim People's Republican Party protested strongly against the existence of censorship on radio and television. The resolution glorified the martyrs of 17 Shahrivar and made the following demands:

1. In observing this fateful day we cherish the memory of the bloodsoaked martyrs who now enjoy eternal life. We shall continue along their path in the establishment of the divine justice of the Islamic Republic, in its true meaning.

2. We express our full support for the government of Engineer Bazargan, beloved prime minister of the Government of the Islamic Republic, and earnestly request that he should deal with disruptive and seditious elements and saboteurs as soon as possible.

3. With the faith we have in Imam Khomeyni's leadership of the revolution, we firmly demand the observance of the principles and precepts of the far-sighted religious leader His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Shari'atmadari in the running of the Government of the Islamic Republic by the responsible officials as regards the administration of the various affairs of the country, and we believe that the Provisional Government and those in positions of authority should take full advantage of the guidance and lofty ideals of his excellency.

4. On the testimony of present, living witnesses, the government and all groups, especially the great marja' [religious authority] of the Shi'ite world, His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, we condemn and protest strongly at the existence of censorship, which is unreasonable and smacks of ulterior motives, and also the un-Islamic methods used by officials of the radio-television organization.

5. We earnestly request the authorities in Eastern Azarbayjan to assign the duties of preaching and delivering sermons to local people from the area and to give thought to the development and prosperity of the province and the completion of unfinished projects, including the Talkhe Rud dam and the beltway.

FINANCE MINISTRY TO HOLD RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRISONS

LD121700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS AGENCY report the running of all the affairs connected with prisons, and the industrial, agricultural and other establishments connected with prisons throughout the country will be entrusted to the finance ministry.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO ACT ON UNEMPLOYMENT

LD121321 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Sep 79 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Consultant Engineers: 'The Government Must Act in a Revolutionary Manner To Solve the Unemployment Problem'"]

[Text] Unemployed consultant engineers have issued a resolution stating that the government has done nothing about the army of the unemployed, some of whom have had no work for 10 months. They demanded that the government provide a clear picture of its economic and development projects and in a revolutionary manner put the unemployed to work again. They have also asked that the government take real steps to combat unemployment by widely implementing a "one man, one job" policy, expelling foreign staff, utilizing Iranian technical personnel, establishing an unemployment fund and ending employers' misappropriation of new staff's pay. The resolution also asks the government to inform the unemployed by the end of the month of Shahrivar of what steps are to be taken.

SHIRAZ MOURNS DEATHS OF ANTI-SHAH PROTESTORS

GF100650 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 8 Sep 79 GF

[Excerpt] The city of Shiraz was in mourning today, as the citizens of this city commemorated and saluted with high esteem the memory of the unforgettable fighters with a majesty worthy of Islam's martyrs. All stores were closed as the people attended the services at the invitation of Haj Sheykh Baha'uddin Mahallati. The commemorative city squares with their black flags and the memorial services of the people of Shiraz on the first anniversary reminded the viewer of the martyrdom of those brave men who, with their deaths, brought us the joyous news of the end of the era of tyranny, injustice and inhumanity. The entire city was shut down, and beginning at 0800 hours people from all walks of life, men and women, marched together in the same direction and for the same purpose. The governor of Fars had designated the Vakil mosque as the gathering place for the people; therefore, everybody walked toward this great mosque. By 1000 hours this morning, the mosque was filled with a huge crowd who listened to the speech by Dr Ahmad Beheshti.

EAST AZARBAYJANIS ORDERED TO TURN IN WEAPONS

LD112036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Court in Tabriz has warned irresponsible individuals in East Azarbayjan Province to hand over all their weapons as soon as possible, within 12 days or at the latest by 23 September, to the office of the Islamic revolution public prosecutor in Tabriz. Those who violate this order will be deemed counter-revolutionaries and will be prosecuted in revolution courts.

NVOI CENSURES GOVERNMENT'S SUPPRESSION OF KURDS

TA111016 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 10 Sep 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Uplift the Revolution's Banner"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The supervisors of the Revolution Guards Corps are priding themselves on the victory in Kordestan, a victory that has wounded our revolution, a revolution to which the Iranian people attach great [word indistinct] and expect that it will end discord and bloodshed in their country forever.

The struggling Iranian people expected that the revolution would respect the rights of ethnic minorities, their characteristics and national interests. However, they observe these days that some persons are even attempting to reverse conditions to the former shah's era. At present the inhabitants of many of Kordestan's towns and villages have left their homes and dwellings out of fear of facing field and Islamic courts and the issuance of numerous verdicts of death sentences, which have alarmed the civilian population, and have taken refuge in the mountains. It was not accidental that the inhabitants of Mahabad, by sending a telegram to Imam Khomeyni, requested the announcement of a general amnesty and the prevention of the formation of Islamic courts in this city. It was pointed out in this telegram that adoption of such measures would aid in normalizing life for the local population and would guarantee the safety of the deserters during the return to their birthplace.

The crushing of the Kurds' movement--who are demanding the granting of the right of autonomy --by resorting to arms does not solve the problems [word indistinct]. The Kurdish-populated areas are the most backward regions of our country in the social and economic spheres. The deposed shah's regime did not accomplish anything practical to improve the life of the Kurds. In the villages of Kordestan, there is no sign of electricity, drinking water, and other necessities of life, and there are no passable roads through the rural regions. Immediate social and economic measures must be taken to remedy these problems, rather than answering just demands with bullets. Many believe that the allocation of 400 million tomans, on the order of the imam, is not enough to solve the problems which afflict Kordestan; rather, such a sum should be considered every month. War in Kordestan has made the problem of supplying the people with foodstuffs and [word indistinct] considerably more difficult.

In Kordestan the Revolution Guards and the armed forces deal harshly with the people. Press agencies, parties, organizations and groupings have been dissolved in populated regions, and local administrative organs, such as town and village councils, trade unions and the villagers' revolutionary committees that were previously chosen by the population, are being closed down. All these [acts] intensify the anxiety of the people and cause complaint and dissatisfaction among the soldiers, as they remember the statements of the leaders of the revolution that the Iranian Army must serve the people and not be used for fratricide.

AFGHANISTAN

AFP: SOLDIERS, INSURGENTS CLASH IN NORTHEAST 9 SEP

BK121423 Hong Kong AFP in English 1405 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] Islamabad, Pakistan 12 Sep (AFP)--Several dozen Afghan soldiers were killed by Moslem insurgents last Sunday in Marawara, a small town a few miles from Chigha Sarai in northeast Afghanistan, the insurgent organisation Hezbi Islami announced here today.

The battle lasted several hours, it said. A total of 200 rifles with ammunition were carried off by the insurgents who suffered 13 dead and nine wounded, it added.

The Afghan Government Air Force, according to the insurgents, was also still heavily pounding the region.

COMMENTARY ON VICTORY OF GREAT SAWR REVOLUTION

GF121900 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1620 GMT 12 Sep 79 GF

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The victory of the Great Sawr Revolution, as reiterated and stressed by various delegates at the International Conference of Solidarity With the People of Afghanistan, was not merely a victory for the people of Afghanistan. Rather, it is considered a great success for all democratic and peace-loving forces throughout the world.

The victory of our revolution brought hope and strength to all those forces that are struggling and fighting to halt colonialism and help social justice to prevail in every corner of the world. The victory of our revolution helped all these forces to intensify their struggles. That is why the forces of imperialism have been shaken up severely and have panicked. That is why they have tried to instigate intrigues and plots against our revolution with the cooperation of some of their mercenaries. That is why several delegates representing hundreds of peace-loving forces around the world at the Kabul Conference of Solidarity with the People of Afghanistan, through their passionate speeches, brought disgrace and infamy to these plots and gave due warning to the warmongers not to meddle in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

As the representative from the German Democratic Republic said in his speech at this conference: The revolutionary people of Afghanistan, here in Asia, have been able to build a great and progressive society in a very short time. It is obvious that the imperialist governments have lost their influence and position in this part of the world and they have begun to tremble. That is why they are trying to take advantage of every opportunity to create obstacles on the path of the creation of a progressive society in Afghanistan. But the people of Afghanistan are not alone. All the magnanimous forces of the world are fighting alongside the people of Afghanistan. It has been said before--and I want to repeat it--that your struggle is our struggle. Your victory is our victory. We are proud to be alongside you in this struggle. All the peace-loving forces in the world agree that the people of Afghanistan will overcome the difficulties created by imperialism outside Afghanistan. We all know that it is only natural that the revolutionary power of the people of Afghanistan can nullify and frustrate the enemy's efforts.

These were not merely the surprise words of one country's representative. Rather, they were the echo of the will and desire of millions of inhabitants of this planet for whom the shining torch of the Great Sawr Revolution has opened a new door of hope. Everyone is fulfilling his revolutionary and internationalist duty in keeping this torch shining forever--this torch of justice and democracy.

MORE MARCHES AND MEETINGS SUPPORT REGIME 11 SEP

GF120657 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Sep 79 GF

[Excerpt] Once again today, a number of provincial districts and villages were the scene of grand marches and meetings of the people held to condemn the treacherous and despicable acts of the mercenaries and henchmen of international imperialism and reaction, and to defend the honor of our sacred homeland.

According to reports from BAKHTAR correspondents, in today's marches and meetings, tens of thousands of people were carrying portraits of Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] and president of the Revolutionary Council, and red national flags and revolutionary banners. A number of intellectuals spoke at length about the lofty goals of the immutable Sawr Revolution. During these speeches the shameful acts of the stooges of imperialism were strongly denounced and the people's hatred of these elements were expressed.

'KHALQ' PUBLISHED AS PDPA CENTRAL ORGAN

GF121755 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Sep 79 GF

[Text] The glorious newspaper KHALQ, the central organ of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] is published in five languages for the purpose of explaining the objectives of the Great Sawr Revolution and its fruits and the steps taken by our Khalqi government to promote the people's welfare and comfort and the blossoming of our beloved Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA, pioneer of the country's working class.

The latest issues of this dignified newspaper have been published in Pushtu, Dari, Baluchi, English and Urdu.

The glorious KHALQ newspaper, which is published in fine print, reflects the proletarian ideology by presenting pertinent topics and articles, and it reports on the decisions of the Khalqi government and the PDPA as well as on important foreign events.

KARACHI REPORTS SOVIET AGREEMENT ON SATELLITE STATION

BK512145 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for the setting up of a satellite station with Soviet assistance for broadcasting radio and television programs. Under the agreement signed yesterday in Kabul, a mobile satellite station is to be set up under the first phase. The permanent station will be established by 1980-81 under the second phase.

BANGLADESH

FOREIGN MINISTER HAILS ROLE AT NONALINED SUMMIT

BK101420 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The just concluded nonalined summit in Havana has incorporated in its final document a number of proposals and amendments moved by Bangladesh. The foreign minister, Professor Shamsul Haq, told a news conference in Dacca today that the hopes and expectations of Bangladesh, its plea for unity of the nonalined countries and its call for adherence to the principles of nonalinement found expression in the final document. The final declaration, he said, reaffirmed the unflinching faith in nonalinement regardless of differences in size, character and power of the member countries. It has upheld the principles vigorously pursued by Bangladesh that the nonalined movement should remain an independent, free and nonbloc movement by rejecting dependence and unequal relationship among nations and condemning all forms and manifestation of domination.

The foreign minister said from the Bangladesh point of view, the most significant achievement of the summit is in the economic sphere. For the first time, the conference has been able to give a dimension to the economic program and in this Bangladesh played the most prominent role. The summit, he said, adopted the Bangladesh proposal to set up a food security system and agreed to give it priority. Bangladesh is also one of the coordinators for implementing action programs on food, energy, unemployment and other such economic matters. The proposal for setting up a coordinating unit was put forward by Bangladesh along with a proposal for establishing a nonalined research center. A study group has been formed to go into these suggestions. At the initiative of Bangladesh, the conference agreed on reactivating the nonalined solidarity fund and to take urgent action to implement the decisions of UNCTAD V, including the recommendations of convening a UN conference to discuss revision of the existing international economic order.

On political matters, the foreign minister said Bangladesh took active role in putting forth a resolution on Jerusalem calling for concerted efforts by the nonalined countries to reestablish Arab sovereignty over the holy city. He said the amendment to the resolution on Cyprus was also moved by Bangladesh. Other fields in which Bangladesh took positive initiative included the questions of peace and stability in South Asia and the Indian Ocean and on peaceful settlement of disputes.

The foreign minister also spoke on bilateral exchanges between President Zia and heads of delegations during the conference in Havana. He said all Moslem heads of delegations had favorably responded and shown keen interest in President Zia's proposal for setting up an Islamic common market. [Words indistinct] greater economic cooperation between Iraq and Bangladesh. Syria has agreed to open a resident mission on a reciprocal basis and immediately form a joint ministerial level commission [words indistinct] oil in this country.

President Zia and the king of Jordan have agreed to setting up a joint commission and to the ways and means for expanding economic, technical and cultural cooperation. Following talks with the Iranian delegation it was agreed that the joint commission with Iran should be reactivated.

About President Zia's talks with the president of Pakistan, the Bangladesh foreign minister said the two leaders have agreed to review the status of bilateral relations between the two countries, including the accord on repatriation of stranded Pakistanis.

INDIA

DEVRAJ URS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS PARTY

BK121615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] Karnataka chief minister Devraj Urs has been unanimously declared elected president of the Indian National Congress. This was announced by the returning officer and the party general secretary, Mr Mohammad Shafi Qureshi, in Bangalore today. Mr Urs was lustly cheered by the delegates attending the AICC [All India Congress Committee] session.

Earlier, addressing a Youth Congress rally, Mr Urs stated that he was voted back to power in the 1978 [Karnataka] assembly poll not because of Mrs Gandhi's charisma, but because of several socioeconomic programs initiated and implemented by the [Karnataka] government. If Mrs Gandhi's charisma was alone responsible, why did she fail to win even a single seat in the north in the parliamentary polls, he asked.

He said Mr Sanjay Gandhi's interference in the work of the government was responsible for the rout of the Congress in 1977. He expressed fear that Mrs Gandhi is again attempting to bring her son to the forefront.

The AICC adjourned for tomorrow after inconclusively discussing the political resolution. While by and large there was a general support to the resolution, there was also opposition from a few. At least two members opposed the party's move to fight the coming parliamentary elections under the common leadership, common manifesto and common flag [in alliance with Janata-S]. They feared that the party might lose its identity if this is done. They also opposed the party's move to go with the CPI [Communist Party of India] and the CPI-M [Marxists]. One member felt that the resolution should have mentioned something about the drought situation prevailing in most parts of the country. Another member wanted stringent action against black marketeers.

MRS GANDHI ADDRESSES PARTY CONVENTION IN DELHI 13 SEP

BK130752 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has alleged that the Janata and Janata-S parties have led the country to chaotic conditions. Opening the 1-day session of the All India Congress-I committee in New Delhi today, she said that the government is not concerned about the problems like the drought conditions in various parts of the country. Their only concern is to crush her and her party. She said that the people were fooled in the 1977 general elections as slogans took the place of serious consideration of the issues. She said the people have now realized because of the difficulties caused by the spiraling prices, instability and insecure feelings of the harijans and minorities in the country.

Referring to the Congress led by Mr Davraj Urs, Mrs Gandhi said that it had committed suicide by accepting, together with the Janata-S, a common leader, program and symbol. Mrs Gandhi claimed that her party is the real Congress.

Referring to the talks of debarring her from contesting the elections on the basis of the Maruti Commission's report she said that anything the Janata or Janata-S parties might do against her would redound on them.

Mr S.K. Patil in his speech remarked that the country is in the midst of a bitter crisis. He appealed to the Janata leader Mr Jagjivan Ram to join the Congress-I.

CONGRESS-I HOLDS MEETING TO ASCERTAIN MEMBERS' VIEWS

BK121607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I Working Committee which met in New Delhi today discussed a statement on the political situation to be presented to the AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-I] session tomorrow. In her introductory remarks, party President Mrs Gandhi said that the AICC-I is convened mainly to discuss members' viewpoints to be included in the party manifesto.

Briefing newsmen, the party general secretary, Mr A.R. Antule, reiterated that the Congress-I will not have an alliance with any other party at the national level, but regional and local adjustments are being considered. Some prominent leaders who had recently joined the party were among the special invitees for today's meeting. They included Mr. S.K. Patil, Mr Mohan Lal Sukgadia, Mr Virendra Patil, Mr Hanumanthaiya and Mr Vasant Rao Patil.

WEST BENGAL LEFT FRONT TO CONTEST MIDTERM POLLS

BK130325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The constituent parties of the left front government in West Bengal have decided not to have any electoral alliance with theCongress, Congress-I, Janata and Janata-S in the state. The chairman of the left front committee, Mr Promode Das Gupta, said this after a meeting of the committee in Calcutta yesterday. Regarding an alliance with the CPI [Communist Party of India] Mr Das Gupta said that it can be considered only after the CPI resigns from the Kerala ministry and withdraws its support to the Assam ministry.

CPI TO CONTEST 20 UTTAR PRADESH PARLIAMENTARY SEATS

BK130326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The Communist Party of India [CPI] will contest 20 parliamentary seats in the coming midterm elections from Uttar Pradesh. This was announced by Mr N.K. Krishnan, secretary, National Council of CPI. Speaking to newsmen in Luchnow, he said his party is of the view that all leftist parties should fight the coming elections on the basis of one manifesto.

NEW REGIONAL PARTY MINISTRY TAKES OFFICE IN ASSAM

BK090950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Sep 79 BK

[Text] In Assam, the first ever ministry formed by a regional party--the Assam Janata Dal--has assumed office. An eight-member ministry headed by Mr Jogendra Nath Hazarika was sworn in today at Spur. The governor of the northeastern states, Mr L.P. Singh, administered the oath of office and secrecy. Besides Mr Hazarika, the other ministers sworn in are: Mr Prema Bora, Mr Keshab Chandra Gogoi, Dr Karini Mohan Baruah, Mr Altaf Hussain Mazumdar, Mr Jaqan Nath Sinha, Mr Zahirul Islam and Mr Rabindranath Choudhury.

The Assam Janata Dal was formed by the members of the assembly who resigned from the Janata Party. Mr Hazarika had resigned the speakership of the assembly earlier this week and was unanimously elected leader of the Dal. Mr Gogoi, Mr Sinha and Mr Zahirul Islam were Cabinet ministers in the Borbora ministry which bowed out of office on Monday in the face of a no-confidence motion.

After the swearing-in ceremony the chief minister, Mr Hazarika, said that the portfolios of the ministers will be announced soon. He said that the ministry would be expanded later.

GEGONG APAANG TO HEAD NEW MINISTRY IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

BK070959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Sep 79 BK

[Text] According to a UNI [United News of India] report, the former PWD [Public Works Department] minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Mr Gegong Apaang, was today invited by the lt governor, Mr R.N. Haldipur, to form a new ministry in Arunachal Pradesh. The report says Mr Gegong Apaang called on the lieutenant governor in Itanagar this morning with a list of 19 supporters in a 33-member House and staked his claim to form a new government. Mr Apaang, who resigned from the Thungon ministry yesterday, was elected leader of the Arunachal People's Conference formed by the Janata dissidents last night. Mr Gegong Apaang told newsmen that he ;will be sworn in on Sunday. The ministry would have a strength of seven or eight ministers. He said he will leave for New Delhi immediately after being sworn in as the chief minister to seek the center's sanction for constituting his cabinet.

UNI adds Arunachal Pradesh being a union territory, the center's sanction would be required if the Council of Ministers is to have more than five members. The latest party position in the 33-member assembly is: Arunachal People's Conference, 19; People's Party of Arunachal, 8, Janata, 2; Independent 1 and nominated 3.

STRIKE HALTS INDIAN OIL CORPORATION MARKETING OPERATIONS

BK121653 Hong Kong AFP in English 1640 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 12 Sep (AFP)--The marketing operations of the state-run Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the country's only organisation in the field, today came to a virtual standstill following an indefinite strike launched by workers of the IOC refineries and distribution division. Reports said 11,000 out of the total 15,000 workers had joined the strike, demanding wage revisions. The oil marketing was said to have come to a sudden stop throughout the country, except in the western region.

IOC chairman Mr. Dasgupta told reporters here that "there is no problem with aviation fuel so far."

Petroleum Minister Am Bala Pajanor offered an increase to neutralise the rise in cost of living but employees' representatives insisted on getting a "package deal" of revised wage scales and allowances. Meanwhile, there were reports of angry consumers of high speed diesel oil, like truck and private drivers and farmers, attacking petrol stations at several places in Uttar Pradesh state on Tuesday in the already existing short supplies of the oil. The mobs also clashed with police in some of the places.

MEASURES TAKEN TO MEET DROUGHT SITUATION

BK110421 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Sep 79 BK

[Text] The government has stepped up measures to meet the drought situation and movement of foodgrains to states. A high level committee has been constituted to monitor the drought situation. The five-member committee will be headed by the deputy prime minister, Mr Chavan. The ministers of agriculture, finance, rural construction and steel and Mr G.V.K. Rao, member of the Planning Commission, will be its members.

The committee will review the situation from time to time and take appropriate measures. The government has also set up a control room to sort out the difficulties of the states regarding the movement of foodgrains for the food for work program. On a (?reference) from any state, the control room will instruct the food corporation for immediate action.

A special program for food production during the rabi [spring] season is being launched to make up the deficiency in kharif [autumn] crop casued by the erratic monsoon. The minister of state for food and irrigation, Mr Krishanappa, said in Madras that there is no room for anxiety necause of buffer stock of foodgrains and sugar. Meanwhile, the center is to import 5 million tons of fertilizers to meet farm requirements during the rabi season.

The agriculture secretary, Dr Swaminathan, has said that the government also plans to set up godowns in villages to insure fair price to farmers.

The railway minister, Mr T. A. Pai, has said that the center is considering the possibility of moving foodgrains from the north through railways to Kandla and from there by ship to the south. This will reduce the pressure on the Grand Trunk route. He said 50,000 tons of foodgrains will be sent to Orissa this month.

SRI LANKA

AFP: LEFT WING TRADE UNIONS PROTEST DRAFT LAWS

BK121631 Hong Kong AFP in English 1552 GMT 12 Sep 79 BK

[Text] Colombo 12 Sep (AFP)--Left wing trade unions today launched a campaign against draft laws which they claim would prevent trade union action in certain public sectors.

As an initial move in their campaign, employees of government offices, banks and mercantile firms carrying posters picketed outside their offices during the lunch interval.

The proposed draft law called the "Essential Public Services Bill" provides for the services provided by certain government departments, public corporations and local authorities to be declared essential if the president is satisfied that the services provided by employees of these institutions are likely to be impeded and their maintenance is essential to the life of the community.

Any employee found guilty of an offence under the proposed legislation will be liable to imprisonment from two to five years or a fine of 2,000 to 5,000 rupees or both, and confiscation of their property.

Dr. Colvin R. de Silva, a leader of the Trotskyite Party, charged that with this move the government was in fact planning to incorporate in the ordinary law the much denounced emergency regulations with even more undemocratic features.

The Freedom Party of former Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike has also opposed the proposed legislation which will be debated in Parliament on September 20.